

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A device comprising:
5 a switch, disposed on said device, for turning power to a receptacle on or off;
a member coupled to the device and having a first position which allows a plug to be
inserted into said receptacle and a second position which prevents the plug from being inserted
into the receptacle; and
connecting means coupled to said member and to said switch to selectively enable said
10 switch to connect the receptacle to a source of power when said member is in said second
position.
2. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1 wherein said connecting means disables
said switch from connecting said receptacle to a source of power when said member is in said
15 first position.
3. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1 and further comprising a locking means for
locking the plug to the receptacle when said member is in said second position.
- 20 4. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 3 wherein said locking means disables said
receptacle from accepting said plug when said member is in said second position.
5. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1 wherein said connecting means turns said
switch to the off position when said member is moved from the second position to said position.
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6. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1, wherein the plug and the receptacle are
electrical wiring components.
7. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1, further comprising a mounting lug
30 disposed on a housing for housing the device.

8. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1, further comprising a gasket mounted on said receptacle.

5 9. (Original) The device of claim 5, further comprising a gasket hold down clamp mounted on said receptacle.

10. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein said connecting means comprises a first linkage and a second linkage, said first linkage and said second linkage are connected to each other.

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11. (Original) The device of claim 10, wherein said first linkage is connected to said member.

12. (Original) The device of claim 10, wherein said second linkage is operable to operate
15 said switch.

13. (Original) The device of claim 10, and further comprising a cam attached to said switch.

14. (Original) The device of claim 13, wherein said second linkage is operable to move said
20 cam thereby moving said switch.

15. (Original) The device of claim 1, further comprising:
a spring clip attached to said member; and
an indexer operably attached to said spring clip to cause said member to remain in said
25 first or said second positions.

16. (Original) The device of claim 15, further comprising:
knubs attached to said spring clip; and
indentations disposed on said indexer, such that said knubs on said spring clip fit into said
30 indentations.

17. (Currently Amended) A housing comprising:

a receptacle;

a member coupled to the housing and having a first position which allows a plug to be

5 inserted into or removed from the receptacle and a second position which prevents a plug from being inserted into or removed from the receptacle, and

connecting means coupled to the member to selectively enable the receptacle to be connected to a source of power when the member is in the second position.

10 18. (Currently Amended) An actuating mechanism for operating a switch and other electrical device comprising:

an enclosure including an electrical plug receiving receptacle;

a switch which is selectively positionable in "on" or "off" positions, said switch being electrically connected with said receptacle; and,

15 a handle which is movably mounted on the exterior of said enclosure;

an actuating linkage means for operatively connecting said switch and said handle such that when said handle is in a first position a plug may be connected to said receptacle and said switch may not be placed in the on position, and a second position which keeps a plug from being inserted or removed when said switch is placed in the on position, wherein the actuating linkage means selectively enables the receptacle to be connected to a source of power when the actuating linkage means is in the second position.

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19. (Previously Presented) The mechanism as set forth in claim 18, further including a locking means operatively connected with said actuating linkage means and with said receptacle for locking said switch in the "off" position in the absence of a plug fully received in said receptacle and for locking said plug fully received in said receptacle in the absence of said switch being in the "off" position.

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20. (Currently Amended) A method of coupling a plug to a receptacle comprising the steps of:

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providing a member having a first position for permitting the plug to be inserted into or being removed from the receptacle and a second position for blocking the plug from being inserted into or removed from the receptacle;

placing the member into the first position;

5 connecting the plug to the receptacle;

moving the member into the second position where the plug may not be removed from the receptacle and selectively enabling the receptacle to be coupled to a source of power.

10 21. (Currently Amended) A method of coupling a plug to a receptacle comprising the steps of:

moving, to a first position, a member coupled to a switch, the member having a first position which allows the plug to be inserted into or removed from said receptacle;

connecting the plug to the receptacle;

15 moving, to a second position, the member coupled to a switch, the member having a second position which prevents the plug from being inserted into or removed from the receptacle; and

moving a switch from an off position to an on position, the switch only operable to be selectively moved to an on position when the member is in the second position.

20 22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the step of moving, to a second position, locks the plug into the receptacle.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the switch is turned to the off position if the member is moved from the second position to the first position.

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24. (Currently Amended) A housing comprising:

a receptacle;

a member coupled to the housing and having a first position which allows a plug to be inserted into or removed from the receptacle and a second position which prevents a plug from
30 being inserted into or removed from the receptacle, and

switching means to selectively enable the receptacle to be connected to a source of power.

25. (Currently Amended) A switching mechanism for operating an electrical device
5 comprising:

an enclosure including an electrical plug receiving receptacle;

a switch which is selectively positionable in "on" or "off" positions, said switch being electrically connected with said receptacle;

10 a handle which is movably mounted on the exterior of said enclosure from a first to a second position;

mechanical means operable such that when said handle is in a first position a plug may be connected to said receptacle, and a second position which keeps a plug from being inserted or removed, wherein the mechanical means selectively enables the receptacle to be connected to a source of power when the mechanical means is in the second position.

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26. (Currently Amended) A device comprising:

a switch, disposed on said device, for turning power to a receptacle on or off;

20 a member coupled to the device and having a first position which allows a plug to be inserted into said receptacle and a second position which prevents the plug to be inserted into the receptacle, wherein the member selectively enables the receptacle to be connected to a source of power when the member is in the second position.

27. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 26, wherein the plug and the receptacle are electrical wiring components.

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28. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 26, and further comprising a mounting lug disposed on said housing.

29. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 26, and further comprising a gasket mounted
30 on said receptacle.

30. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 29, further comprising a gasket hold down clamp mounted on said receptacle.

5 31. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1, wherein the member is user accessible.

32. (Previously Presented) The housing of claim 17, wherein the member is user accessible.

33. (Previously Presented) The mechanism of claim 18, wherein the handle is user accessible.

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34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the member is user accessible.

35. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 21, wherein the member is user accessible.

15 36. (Previously Presented) The housing of claim 24, wherein the member is user accessible.

37. (Previously Presented) The mechanism of claim 25, wherein the handle is user accessible.

38. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 26, wherein the member is user accessible.

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